

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed April 6, 2007, claims 14-16, 18 and 19 were allowed; and claims 1, 3, 4, 8, 11, 12, 17, 20, 22 and 23 were rejected under nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-4 and 11-15 of U.S. Patent No. 6,729,227 in view of Morino et al.

Claims 1, 3-4, 6, 8-20, 22 and 23 are pending and under consideration.

Regarding the Double Patenting Rejection:

The Applicants respectfully submit the attached Terminal Disclaimer in order to overcome the double patenting rejection. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: 7/5/2007

By: 

Deidre M. Davis

Registration No. 52,797

1201 New York Avenue, NW, 7th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501